REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's Office Action of February 7, 2007 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendments

In the Amendments:

independent claim 1 is amended to specify that the integrated circuit comprises a tamper detection line which is arranged to obscure operation of the non-volatile memory. Support for this amendment can be found in paragraphs [6648]-[6669] of the present specification;

independent claim 7 is amended to clarify the preamble as suggested by the Examiner, and to recite the step obscuring the operation of the non-volatile memory with noise on the tamper detection line; and

dependent claims 2-6 and 8-10 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

Regarding Claim Objections

It is respectfully submitted that the above-described amendment to claim 7 to clarify the preamble as suggested by the Examiner, provides the correction required by the Examiner.

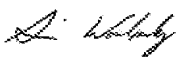
Regarding 35 USC 102(b) and 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of above-described amended independent claims 1 and 7, and claims 2-6 and 8-10 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed or suggested by Hameau et al. (US 2002/0107798) either alone or in view of Pires (US 6,269,164), because neither Hameau nor Pires teach or suggest arranging a tamper detection line to obscure the operation of non-volatile memory, as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 7.

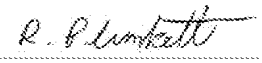
It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

Applicant/s:



Simon Robert Walmsley



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